

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Instructions: [F-01922A](#)

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|--|---------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Name of Governmental Body: Governor's Autism Council | | | Attending: Nissan Bar-Lev (Council Member); Vivian Hazell (Council Member); Pam Lano (Council Member) attending in person. Wendy Coomer (Council Member); Liesl Jordan (Council Member); Roberta Mayo (Council Member) participating by phone. Public Members: Dr. Rebecca Thompson (representing Council Member Glen Sallows); Angela Levin (Mercy Health/WAPA); Mike Rogowski (Wisconsin Autism Providers Association); Julie Quigley (Autism Society of South East Wisconsin); Hank Brand (Presence Learning); Laura Berkner (Co-Founder, Stimmi). DHS Staff: Deb Rathermel, Director; Andrea Jacobson, Section Chief; Nancy Bills, and Sam Ninnemann (Bureau of Children's Long Term Support Services. Tabitha Ramminger , Section Chief (Prior Authorization - Bureau of Benefits Management) . |
| Date: 5/10/2018 | Time Started: 10:00 am | Time Ended: 12:00 Noon | |
| Location: Department of Health Services Building, 1 W. Wilson St., Room 630, Madison, WI | | | Presiding Officer: Andrea Jacobson, Section Chief, Bureau of Children's Long Term Support Services (DHS) |
| Minutes | | | |

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Individual introductions of Council members; DHS staff and general public

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Julie Quigley (Autism Society of South East Wisconsin) -- Reiterated her interest in becoming a member of Autism Council representing parents who have children with disabilities. She has already submitted her application. Mentioned that she had heard complaints from families in Milwaukee County who are on the CLTS wait list and unable to access services. Milwaukee County is indicating a lack of available funding for all children seeking enrollment.

Hank Brand (School Partnership Director for Presence Learning) -- This company provides access to a network of 800 licensed clinical professionals who work with students via secure, live, online video sessions using a proprietary platform of therapy services, progress monitoring, and tracking tools. Presence Learning is interested in offering services (if approved by Medicaid) to eligible Wisconsin participants . Their services are currently Medicaid reimbursable in Minnesota and will soon be in Indiana also.

Angie Levine (Mercy Health/WAPA) -- According to a survey of Autism Treatment providers, 800 or more children are waiting for autism treatment services and are unable to access them due to lack of available providers. Providers reportedly have a hard time retaining staff.

OPERATIONAL:

Approval of Pending Autism Council Meeting Minutes:

Motion: Nissan moved that draft meeting minutes from February 10, 2017, May 5, 2017, and November 9, 2017, be approved without any changes. Motion seconded by Pam. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Nissan moved that draft meeting minutes from February 8, 2018, be approved with the following organization name reference change for Julie Quigley -- from Autism Society of Wisconsin to Autism Society of South East Wisconsin (make change in two places in draft minutes). Motion seconded by Pam. Motion passed unanimously.

Proxy voting option: Members discussed procedure for amending Section 6(b) of the Autism Council's bylaws to allow members to appoint someone of their choosing to represent them at Council meetings and allow them voting privileges. Pam will write up a future motion that will be sent to members prior to the August 9, 2018, meeting where it will be discussed and voted on.

Membership Resignation: Wendy Coomer announced that she will be resigning from the Council effective immediately since she is moving out of state. Council members and Andrea Jacobson expressed their appreciation to Wendy for her years of service.

DPI ENROLLMENT DATA PRESENTATION - Nissan Bar-Lev: Presented data on the number of students with disabilities in Wisconsin's public and private schools.

BUREAU OF CHILDREN'S LONG TERM SUPPORT SERVICES (BCLTSS) UPDATE - Deb Rathermel, Director
Discussed handout titled: BCLTSS 2016 Access Report: Program Eligibility and Enrollment Findings. BCLTSS is currently using data regarding the approximate number of children in Wisconsin with significant disabilities who would most likely meet eligibility for long term care supports and services in order to assist in planning for future program support and funding needs. The data is also being used to identify high-level recommendations for ensuring consistent statewide access for eligible children with disabilities and their families into long-term care programs when appropriate. Essentially, the data explores how many children with disabilities are finding the door or entrance to programs, how many are found eligible for programming, and how many enroll. There are plans to continue to gather information about utilization of services as well as why some eligible children and their families choose not to enroll. BCLTSS is also looking at disparity issues across Wisconsin.

CLTS Wait List Elimination Strategy -- Deb Rathermel shared information about the current status of the wait list elimination. BCLTSS is monitoring enrollment numbers and reviewing county plans for eliminating their county wait lists. BCLTSS will share information about the elimination of the CLTS wait list with counties, county work groups, and councils (including the Governor's Autism Council).

Council members commented: Appreciated opportunity to review this data and would appreciate future updates regarding access and enrollment to programs as available. It would be helpful to publish a provider wait list to see how many children are waiting for services.

FOLLOW UP ITEM: Update on DPI/DHS Guidance to providers on Autism Services
Nissan had no new information to report at this time.

SAFETY COMMITTEE UPDATE -- Wendy Coomer

New drone technology being used to locate lost children. Some urban areas may also be interested in pursuing a personal tracking bracelet system, since using a drone may be logistically difficult. Council should discuss if they would like to continue having a safety committee workgroup at the next meeting.

AUTISM COUNCIL SCOPE and MEMBERSHIP: Deb Rathermel, BCLTSS Director

Distributed three handouts: Proposed Autism Council Scope from DHS Secretary Linda Seemeyer; DHS Secretary's letter to Pam Lano dated February 6, 2018, regarding potential updates to Council's mission and scope; and DHS Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Council's March 2017 revised scope and mission. Council members discussed proposed scope for Autism Council in relation to the CLTS Council's scope; what discussion topics are within DHS' purview and authority; and how important Council recommendations would fit into the drafted scope. Council members were comfortable supporting the proposed Autism Council scope language.

STIMMI PRESENTATION by Laura Berkner, Co-Founder and COO -- A brief video was viewed followed by an overview of STIMMI, which is a caregiver application and website designed to support children and adults with special needs. Stimmi allows the account owner to create a safe and secure online care center storing information that can be accessed by multiple users supporting one individual. STIMMI is interested in discussing the possible use of their service in supporting the needs of individuals with disabilities supported by DHS.

MOTION: Vivian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Pam. Motion passed without objection.

Prepared by: Nancy Bills on 5/11/2018.

These minutes are in draft form. They will be presented for approval by the governmental body on: 8/9/2018